



HIKING WALKING TREKKING

Lika-Senj County



www.visit-lika.com



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When you think of getting away from everyday life or de-stressing, what possibilities do you consider? We all have different views on how to solve this problem, but many will immediately think of the mountains. It's natural for heights to appeal to us as human beings. Mountains are beautiful, and they remind us of how small we are. At the same time, when we climb a peak and observe the world from above, we feel powerful and able to solve any problem we might be faced with.

The Lika-Senj region is full of natural diversity, and its selection of hiking, walking, or trekking trails is truly impressive. It's difficult to count all the trails that weave throughout the entire region, and so only the most appealing, safest, well-marked trails will be presented in this brochure.

Without a doubt, Velebit is the most beautiful mountain in Croatia, majestic in its entirety: from Northern Velebit, which has been protected as a national park since 1999, through Central Velebit nature park, to its southern part,

which features another national park – Paklenica.

In Lika, you can hike on less demanding trails around larger towns such as Gospić or Otočac in the Gacka river valley, or racing trails around Perušić and Grabovača Cave Park. There are also fascinating educational and recreational trails within Plitvice Lakes National Park, which are accessible throughout all four seasons. Challenging trekking tours are also available, leading through Lika's completely unexplored areas: Brinje, Udbina, and Vrhovina. Simply choose a trail that suits you and set off to explore the landscape. When you find a quiet spot to sit, let your mind wander, and you'll feel as if anything is possible.

Hikers are drawn by the variety of natural beauty – the lookout points on the coast, the wealth of karst geological forms, the contrast between the coastal and inland slopes, the unity of land and sea, the botanical and zoological rarities, the numerous high-quality trails, the roughly 1,000km of forest trails, the fifteen mountain lodges, the well-marked cross-Velebit trail, and



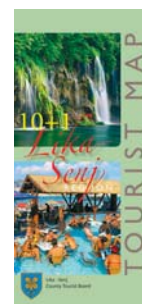
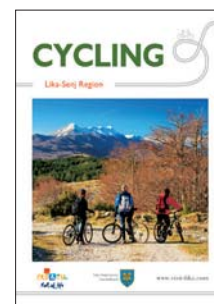
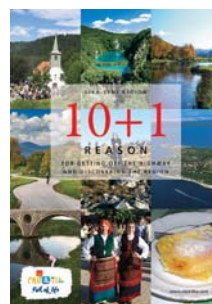
the Lika Mountain Gems mountain loop trail consisting of 20 control points (CP), each of which ends on one of Velebit's peaks.

The approaches to the control points are marked, and visitors can choose which trails they will take. The loop trails differ in their length and difficulty, and they usually enable hikers who choose the easiest paths to encounter the most valuable hiking destinations in the region.

Note: Maps and trails are informative in nature and are to be used at one's own risk.

We wish you an inspiring walk!

Lika-Senj County Tourist Board



More information:

www.visit-lika.com

www.lika-active.com

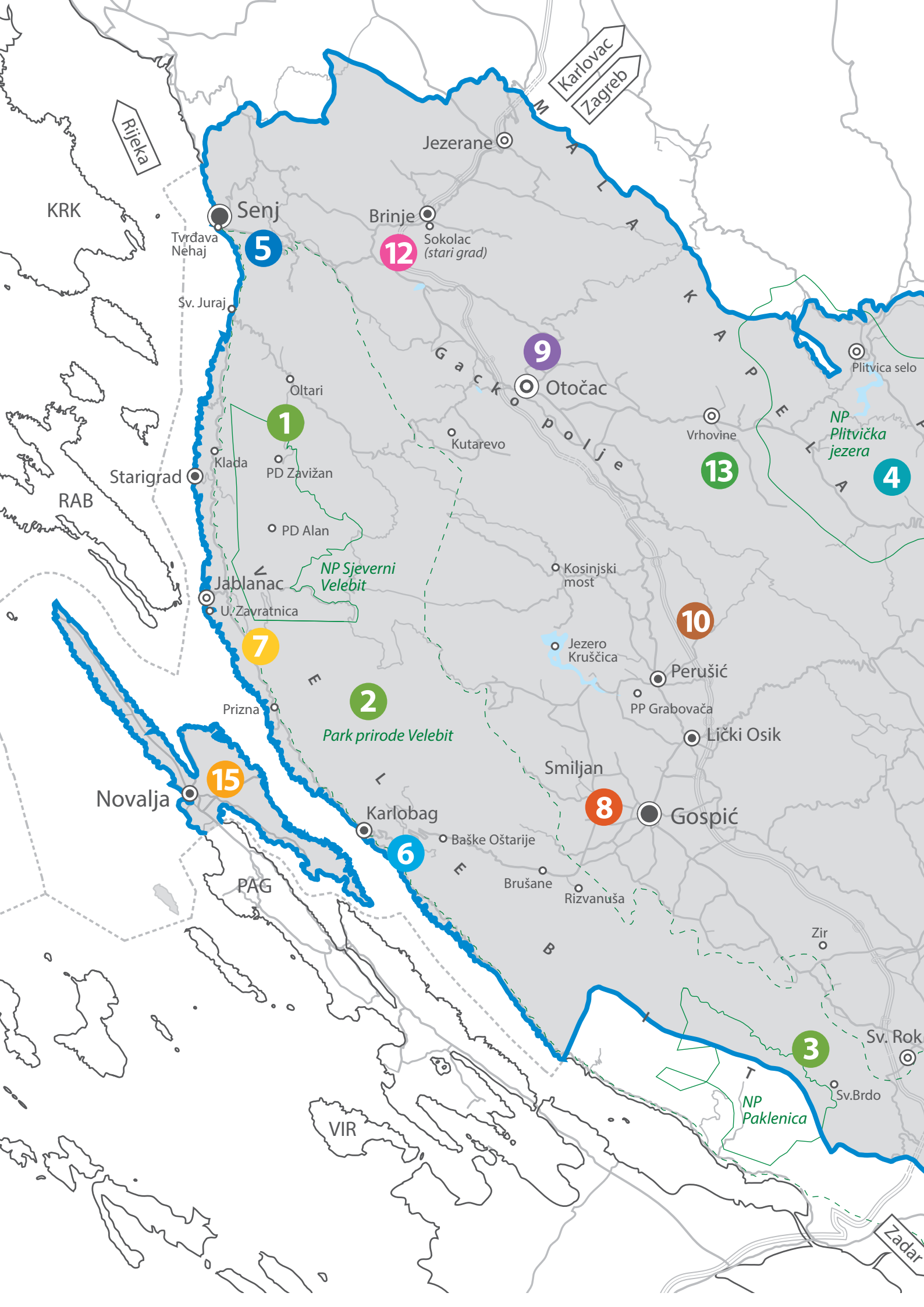
www.lika-gastro.com

www.pdzjeljeznicargospic.hr

www.planinarenje.hr

www.hps.hr





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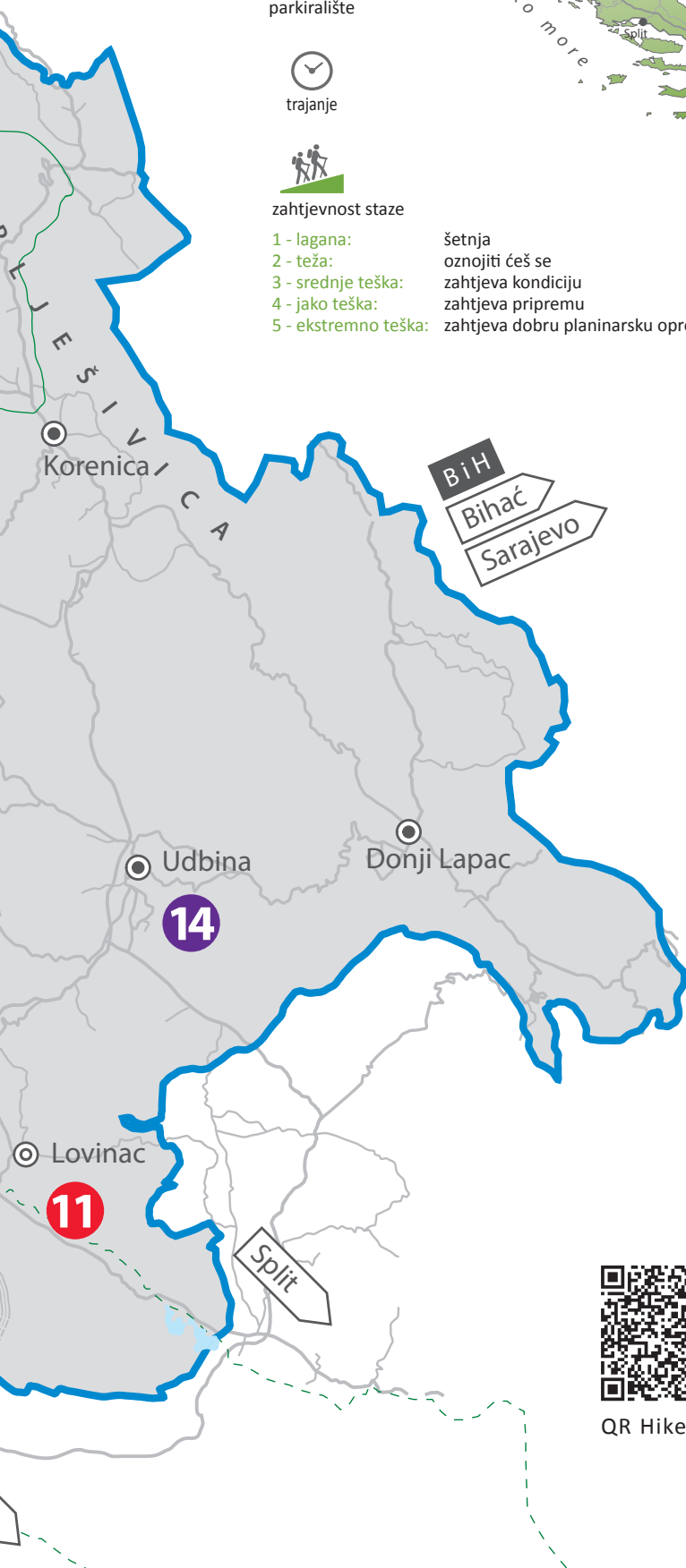
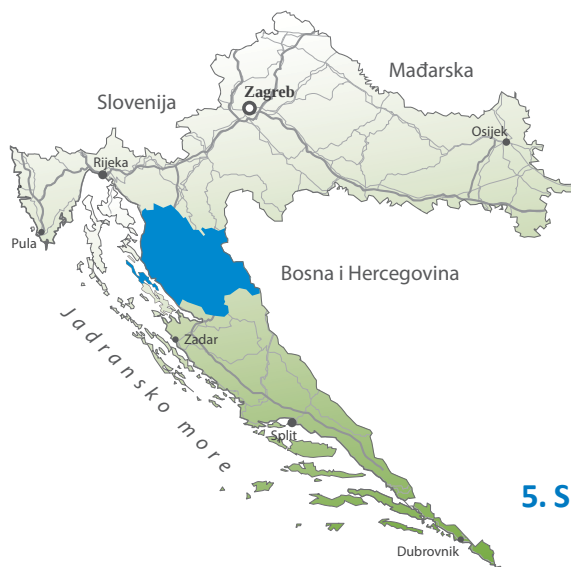
P
parkiralište

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trajanje

🧑🏃
zahtjevnost staze

1 - lagana:
2 - teža:
3 - srednje teška:
4 - jako teška:
5 - ekstremno teška:

šetnja
oznojit će se
zahtjeva kondiciju
zahtjeva pripremu
zahtjeva dobru planinarsku opremu



QR Hike Lika

1. VELEBIT northern 6-9
Premužićeva trail

2. VELEBIT central 10
Kiza
Šatorina

3. VELEBIT southern 11
Šadikovac
Visočica

4. PLITVICE LAKES 12-13
Mrsinj-grad
Oštri Medvjeđak
Čorkova uvala trail
Plitvice trail

5. SENJ and surrounding area 14-15
Starigrad – Donja Klada
Senj loop trail

6. KARLOBAG and surrounding area 16-17
Karlobag-Oštarije-Velinac
Terezijana - educational trail

7. ZAVRATNICA 17

8. GOSPIĆ and surrounding area 18-19
Oštrovica
Krčmar
Oštra

9. OTOČAC – Gacka river valley 20-21
Panos
Marković Rudine
Godača

10. PERUŠIĆ – Grabovača Cave Park 22-23
In the Footsteps of Mirko Malez educational trail
Man and Karst educational trail
Risovac

11. LOVINAC – rock climbing 24-25
Sveti Rok - Sveto brdo
Zir

12. BRINJE 26
Staro Brinje

13. VRHOVINE 27
Vrhovine

14. UDBINA - DONJI LAPAC 28-29
Kremen
Green educational trail
Yellow educational trail

15. NOVALJA – island of Pag 30-32
Vodice trail
Kolan trail
Kamenolom
Novaljsko polje
Staza Novalja – Lun
Wine trail

Races and marathons 33

Trails and markings 34

Useful information 35

VELEBIT – NORTHERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN



Velebit is a mountain range more than 150km long, and with its two national parks (Northern Velebit and Paklenica) and a series of protected areas, it comprises the largest nature park in Croatia. Velebit offers incredible challenges and the spectacular views that you will remember for a life time. Velebit's most appealing peaks are accessible by road and trail, and most can be reached simply by following well-marked trails. Hikers most often decide to hike the entire length of Velebit Nature Park (the Velebit Mountain Trail runs around 100km from north to south), and the Premužić trail runs throughout most of this way, offering shorter side trails and peaks along the way. The Velebit loop trail is also a popular destination, offering a total of 35 control points from Vratnik to Baške Oštarije in the south.

Tourist information:

Northern Velebit National Park, Krasno polje
www.np-sieverni-velebit.hr
www.kuca-velebita.np-sieverni-velebit.hr

Velebit Nature Park, Gospić
www.pp-velebit.hr

The Premužić Trail

Approach: From Senj to the village of Oltari, and then to the Northern Velebit National Park entrance at Babić Siča, macadam road to the parking lot below the Zavižan lodge (1,594m).

This pleasant “promenade” at roughly 1,600m above sea level was left to us by forestry engineer Ante Premužić. This trail, at a total of 57km in length, was built from 1930 to 1933, and it passes along the highest part of Velebit and through the karst areas of Hajdučki kukovi and Rožanski kukovi – the most beautiful hiking experience on Velebit. The most interesting and easiest part is from the beginning, roughly 20 minutes from Zavižan lodge, to Rossi's hut (ca. 2.5h). If you get tired of looking at only bare rock, about half way you can turn and climb up to Gromovača (1,675m), the highest peak of Rožanski kukovi, which offers a beautiful sea view. Further on, you can continue towards Alan lodge (1,305m, ca. 2h), which is open year-round.

57
km

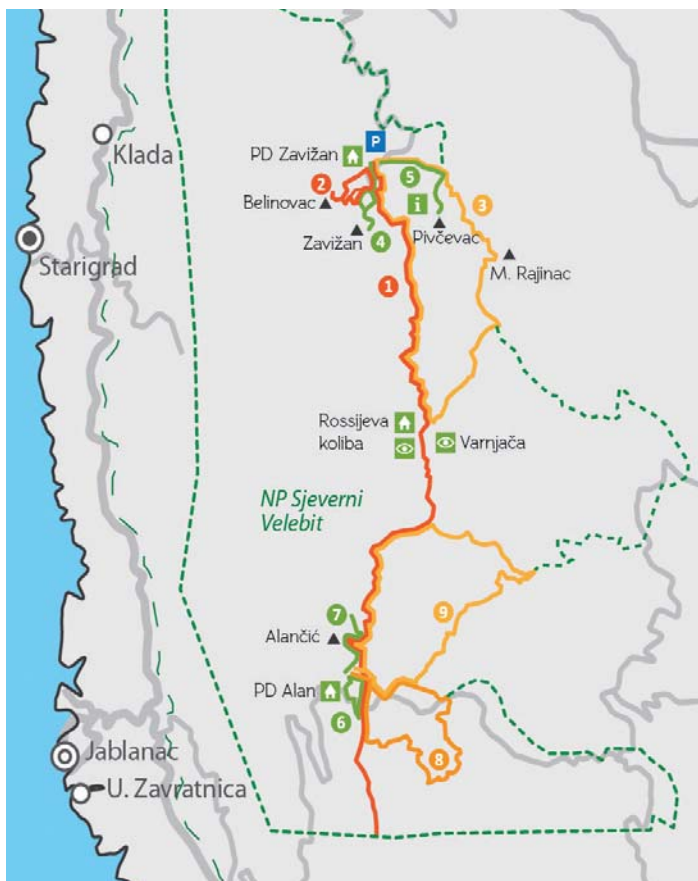
05:30



550m



Velebit House - Krasno Visitor Centre. Experience Velebit through a presentation of nature and life on the mountain



1. NORTHERN VELEBIT – national park

Zavižan lodge (1,594m) is the starting point for a tour of all the nearby peaks

Zavižanska kosa (1620 m)

Zavižanska kosa is an easy hill near Zavižan lodge, and it is a must-see destination for all photographers looking to take an epic panorama of the sea and islands that will remind them of the great times they had hiking on Velebit. A slightly greater challenge is to hike down into Velebit Botanical Gardens, hike the loop trail around it, and return by road to the lodge. This hike lasts a little under two hours. An alternate route and more challenging climb is to Balinovac peak (1,600m) before returning to Zavižan lodge.



3 km 01:15 3 250m

Veliki Zavižan (1676 m)

This easy climb through forests and meadows to a rocky peak offering a beautiful view of the sea and islands begins at the chapel on Zavižan road roughly 100m before the entrance to Velebit Botanical Gardens in Modrić-dolac.



2 km 00:45 3 180m

Pivčevac (1676 m)

From Zavižan lodge, join the road that leads to Veliki Pivčevac peak. The peak was named after the word for rooster in the local dialect (pivac).

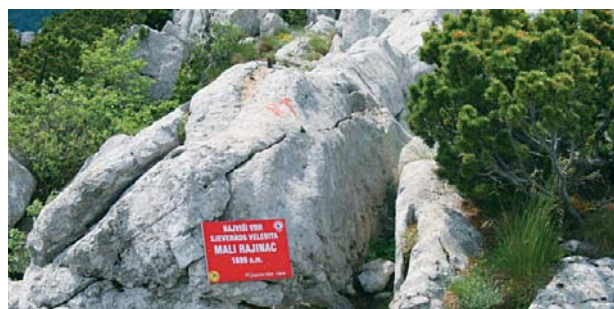
From the peak, you can see the peaks of almost all of northern Velebit, the lawns at Krasnarsko lake, the protected area of Hajdučki i Rožanski kukovi, and Mali Rajinac. A steep trail leads from the peak down to the Zavižan – Veliki Lom road, which you can take back to the lodge.



4 km 01:15 3 250m

Mali Rajinac (1699 m)

Mali Rajinac, the highest peak of Northern Velebit, is about 2 hours' walk from Zavižan lodge. The trail is not too demanding. There are many rest points and beautiful views of the lakes and the continental side of Velebit. Thanks to its altitude, the view from Mali Rajinac is one of the least obstructed on Velebit.



9 km 02:00 4 360m

Alan lodge (1,345m) is the starting point for a tour of all peaks in this part of Velebit.

Buljma (1451 m)

The path to the peak is not demanding, and is intended for those who come to Alan lodge by car and want to stroll through the surroundings and see the sea from the mountaintops. The way back to the lodge is via the Premužić trail, and this short outing takes about an hour and a half.



0,5
km

05:30



150m

Alančić (1612 m)

Alančić peak is about an hour's walk northward from Alan lodge on the Premužić trail. The trail is grassy and offers a beautiful view of a large portion of northern and central Velebit, as well as the sea. At the edge of the forest beneath the peak, there are six renovated shepherd's houses, one of which is an info centre and three of which serve as rental accommodation.



2
km

00:50



160m

Zečjak (1622 m)

The climb to Zečjak peak, the second highest in the southern part of Velebit, takes around 2 hours. The path runs towards Štirovača before turning southward onto the Premužić trail, after which the climb to Zečjak begins. From the peak, you can return along the same path or by connecting to the road near Veliki Alan pass via Kita.



9,6
km

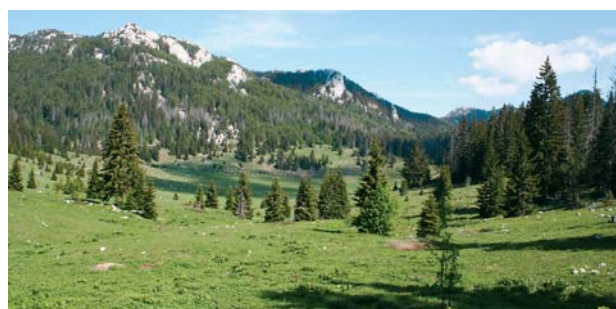
04:10



260m

Lubenovac (1265 m)

The hike along the macadam road from Alan lodge to the karst meadow of Veliki Lubenovac lasts around 2 hours. This grassy clearing is around 1km long, and it borders on the Hajdučki i Rožanski kukovi strict nature reserve. Heading north on the Premužić trail takes you to the Rossi hut. The return trip to Alan lodge along a hiking trail takes around an hour and a half.



9,6
km

04:10



260m

2. CENTRAL VELEBIT

Kiza (1274 m)

Approach: Baške Oštarije

200m from this point, there is a large boulder on the right side, on which there is a signpost pointing the way to Kiza. From the first signpost, the path turns sharply uphill along partially rocky terrain. It passes Anin kuk on the right, exits the forest, and continues along a field uphill to the pass. Near Pečice on the north-hand side, after which the path comes out beneath Kiza peak, turns sharp left uphill through talus and mugo pine and ends beneath the stone gallery of the peak. The stamp is built into the rock at the foot of the peak.

The climb to the top is aided by a few wedges and cables. The peak offers a view in all directions, and the view towards Bačić-kuk and Budakovo brdo is especially beautiful.



1.5 km
00:30
265m



Šatorina (1624 m)

Approach: From the village of Krasno by asphalt road to Štirovača near the Ograđenica mountain shelter, then forest road to the crossing for Dokozina-plan and Šatorina. Turn right at the crossing and walk about 1 hour to the peak. This grassy peak in the shape of a tent offers a beautiful view in all directions towards southern and northern Velebit, from Sveto brdo and Vaganski vrh to Mali Rajinac and Hajdučki i Rožanski kukovi. There are a few lookout points along the descent, from which you can see the Borovački padež and Jovanovića padež depressions in Štirovača. The peak can also be reached by automobile along the forest road to Dokozina-plan, continuing on foot along the marked trail about 1 hour to the peak. Please be aware of timber lorry traffic along forest roads.



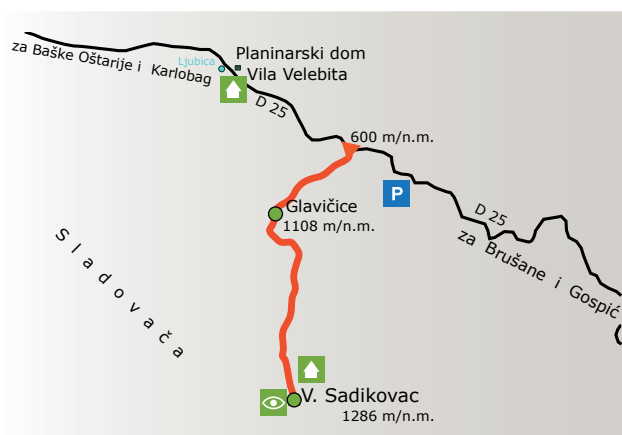
6.5 km
02:30
520m

3. SOUTHERN VELEBIT

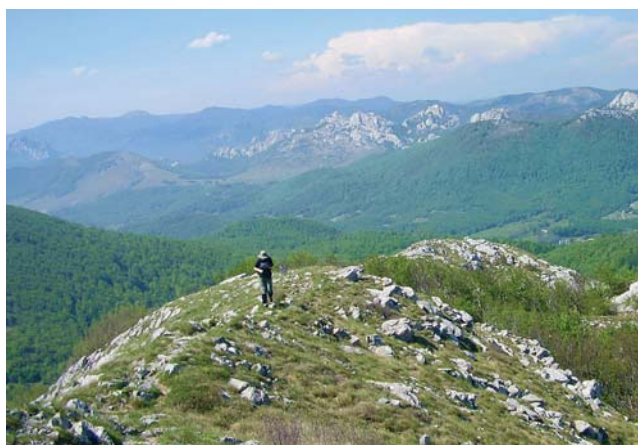
Sadikovac (1286 m)

Approach: Via D25 state road (Karlobag – Gospić) in Baške Oštarije at Takalice pass, where you can park your car in a lay-by.

Hiking tour: The climb to Sadikovac and Konjevača begins near the parking area. Walk 50m towards Baške Oštarije from the parking area, and the marked trail immediately leads into a dense beech forest, rises gradually, and after 1km turns sharp left and exits onto a skid trail, which continues for another kilometre, then briefly through the forest again before exiting onto a grassy ridge. The climb continues up the ridge on a well-trodden trail, and lookout points open from the ridge in all directions. After entering the forest, the climb continues along rocky terrain for around 15 minutes, and you will have to use your hands occasionally. After a steep climb, the trail exits onto a relatively flat, grassy crest, which leads to the other side of the ridge via a 600m-long, well-trodden path. At the end of the crest, 50m before the peak, there is a karst cave right alongside the trail. The stamp and box with the guest book is located here. The path towards Konjevača also diverges here.



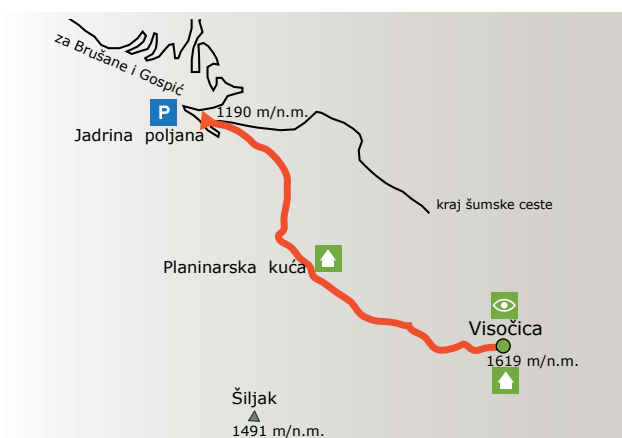
2.5 km 01:00 4 750m



Visočica (1619 m)

Approach: 8km out of Gospić in the direction of Karlobag, turn onto the asphalt road towards the village of Rizvanuša.

Hiking tour: From the parking lot, start on the marked path in the direction of Divosela to Delukino vrelo, where the old trail begins that crosses the road from this point. The trail follows the climb called preko piska, meets with the trail from Jelova Ruja, continues 1km along the road, and continues along a trail to Gojtanov lodge and on towards the peak. The tour can be shortened by two hours by driving to the preko piska climb, and by three hours by driving to the last turnaround beneath Krivi gaj. Visočica is one of the most beautiful lookout points on Velebit, offering a view of nearly the entire range. The Lika field is on one side, and the sea and islands are on the other. The CP stamp is located on the ruined pyramid on the very peak. Gojtanov lodge has been renovated, and offers overnight accommodation for up to 15 people.



2.5 km 01:00 4 436m

4. PLITVICE LAKES



Plitvice Lakes, a natural monument under UNESCO protection and a world-famous national park, can be discovered from various angles, viewpoints, and impressions, of which we shall describe only the most important here. The climb to Medvjeđak offers a beautiful panoramic view of a part of Plitvice Lakes and the entire region between the peaks of Mala Kapela and Lička Plješivica. Along the ridge of Medvjeđak, there are three peaks: Oštri Medvjeđak (889m), Tupi Medvjeđak (868m), and Turčić (801m). Mrsinj-grad is an interesting hiking tour with a historical flair.

Educational and recreational trails:

The trails run through forests and fields in and around Plitvice Lakes National Park. They are well-marked with signs containing information about the natural and cultural idiosyncrasies of this protected region. These trails are not only recreational (due to their length and the lay of the terrain), but educational as well.

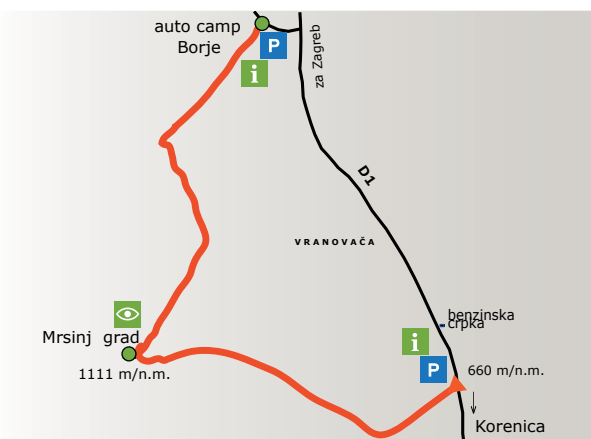
Tourist information:

Plitvice Lakes Municipality Tourist Bord
www.discoverplitvice.com
www.plitvice-active.com

Plitvice Lakes National Park www.np-plitvicka-jezera.hr
www.parkovihrvatske.hr

Mrsinj-grad (1097 m)

Approach: Korenica. This hiking route begins heading away from Korenica 300 metres before the petrol station in Bana Derenčina Street. Heading from Plitvice Lakes, the hike begins on the right side after the INA petrol station. At the last houses across the fields, a gentle, gradual climb along a beautiful trail begins, leading to just before the cliff. There is a five-minute steep climb beneath the old Mrsinj castle. The castle walls offer beautiful views of Korenica and Gola Plješivica. Returning to the pass, the trail continues to Mrsinj peak, from which you can continue on to Bunić village on the Gospić – Korenica road. It is another 30 minutes' walk from Mrsinj-grad to Mrsinj peak, and another hour's walk from there to Bunić. The CP stamp is located on Mrsinj cliff.

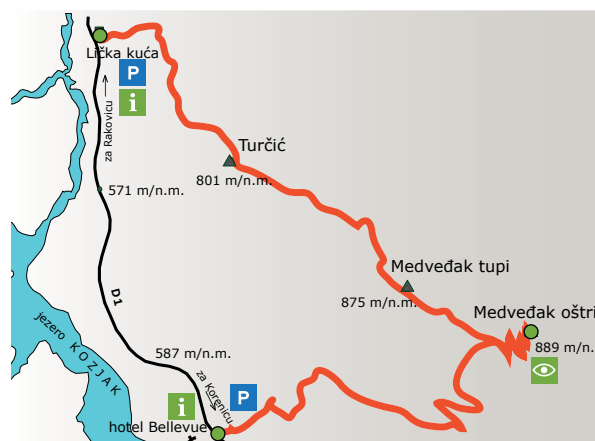


4.5 km 02:00 4 410m

Oštri Medvjeđak (889 m)

Approach: Plitvice Lakes

This hike begins at the end of the car park at Plitvice Lakes entrance II. Medvjeđak is an eight kilometre mountain ridge, dominated by Tupi Medvjeđak and Oštri Medvjeđak peaks. The trail begins at the right end of the car park and heads into the woods. It runs southward along the Blankina trail to a small pass. There is a crossing here, and you should continue right to reach the peak. The left branch of the trail leads to Tupi Medvjeđak and drops down into the village of Rastovača between entrance I and the Koranski bridge. The peak is a small, man-made plateau offering views towards Bosnia and Herzegovina and Gola Plješivica. In late autumn and winter, when the trees have lost their leaves, there is also a beautiful view of the upper lakes. The CP stamp is located on the northern side of the rock at the peak.



9.5 km 03:30 4 300m

Čorkova uvala trail

Approach: The trail begins at Labudovac (panoramic vehicle stop St4) via point 1, where it splits from Plitvica trail to the abandoned village of Čorkova Uvala (2) and a hut. From the hut, the trail heads back across Preka kosa pass to point 3, where it reconnects to Plitvica trail and continues to the dock (P3) in Kozjačka draga.

Note: This tour requires an entry pass to Plitvice Lakes National Park!



21 km 07:00 4 593m

Plitvica trail

Description: This tour through the hidden parts of Plitvice Lakes National Park connects the upper and lower lakes. The beginning of the trail is at Labudovac (panoramic vehicle stop St4) via point 1, where it splits from Čorkova uvala trail to point 3, where it reconnects to Čorkova uvala trail and continues downstream along Plitvica creek to the Large Waterfall and dock P3 in Kozjačka draga.

Note: This tour requires an entry pass to Plitvice Lakes National Park!

Points of interest nearby:

Barać caves – Rakovica
rakovica-touristinfo.hr/atrakcije/baraceve-spilje
 Šupljara cave
 Špoljarić water mill
 Lička kuća – national restaurant



9 km 03:30 4 755m

5. SENJ AND SURROUNDING AREA



Modern-day Senj was built on the ruins of the ancient city of Senia. Its ruins can be seen in many places in the city, and the most famous of these is Nehaj tower. Built on 62m-high Trbušnjak hill, it is a unique monument of Croatian Mediaeval defence fortification architecture. It was built in 1558, and it was home to the Uskoks of Senj, who defended the city from the Turks.

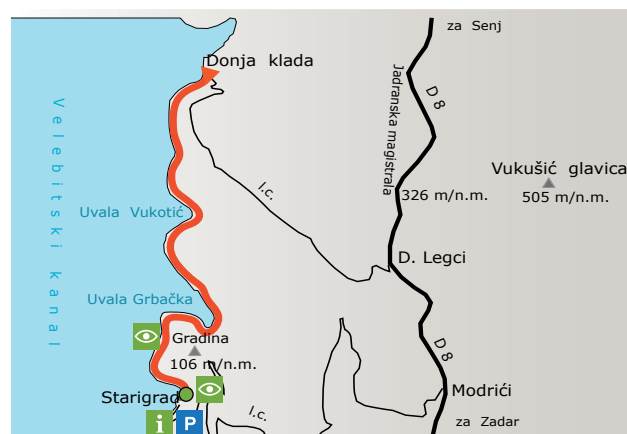
Turističke informacije:

www.tz-senj.hr

Starigrad – Donja Klada

This educational seaside trail, built in 1847, begins in Starigrad near Senj and ends in Donja Klada. Throughout history, transport between Starigrad and Lukovo was by sea exclusively. The construction of this trail in 1847 also opened a necessary land connection between these two coastal settlements. Today, these towns are connected by a well-maintained seaside promenade featuring educational placards. This trail is an easy walk of an hour and a half from start to finish.

How to get there: You can begin the trail either in Starigrad or in Donja Klada. From Senj, head southward on the Adriatic Highway, and after 24 or 26km turn right towards Donja Klada or Starigrad, respectively. The trail is for hikers only.



3.0
km

01:00



80m

Senj loop trail

Sibinj – Malić – Alino bilo – Krivi Put – Orlovo gnijezdo – Vratnik – Krajačeva kuća – Jadićeva plan – Sijaset – kula Nehaj

DAY 1

CP 1: Located in Sibinj, on the Adriatic Highway, 15km from Novi Vinodolski and 7km from Senj.

CP 2: Malić peak (867m) is a beautiful peak offering an amazing view of the region of Krivi Put, the Kvarner archipelago, northern Velebit, Senjsko bilo, and the mountains of Gorski kotar. The climb from Sibinj to Malić takes 3 hours and 10 minutes.

CP 3: Alino bilo peak (1,106m). The peak offers a beautiful view of the village of Podbilo, and the church and cemetery in Krivi Put. It also offers an impressive view of the Vrataruša wind power plant near Krivi Put, one of the largest wind power plants in Europe. The hike from Malić to Alino bilo takes 2 hours and 30 minutes.

CP 4: Krivi Put shelter, offering overnight accommodation, is located in the elementary school building in Krivi Put. It was renovated in 1986 and again in 1996, and features 12 beds with mattresses, a wood-burning stove, electricity, water from a cistern, and necessities. The hike from Alino bilo to Krivi Put takes an hour and 20 minutes.

DAY 2

CP 5: Orlovo gnijezdo lookout point (750m). This point offers the best view of Senjska draga valley, the road winding down the valley and Senj at its bottom, of Senjsko bilo to the southeast, of Vučjak and Plešivica peaks on Velebit to the south and the southern extensions of Velika Kapela, the Kvarner archipelago, Učka mountain, and the sea.

CP 6: Vratnik pass (700m) between the Croatian Littoral and the interior, which offers a beautiful view of Senjska draga, the sea, and the islands. It is the natural border between Velebit and the southern extensions of the Velika Kapela range. The hike from Krivi Put to Vratnik lasts 3 hours.

CP 7: Krajačeva house (1,100m). Built in 1912 thanks to the efforts of Dr Ivan Krajač, it is located on Rujica meadow below Jadićeva plan. It was the first building intended for hikers on Velebit. Today, a building that does not serve the same purpose stands on its foundations, although the name has remained due to tradition and history. The hike from Vratnik to Krajačeva house takes 2 hours.

CP 8: Jadićeva plan peak (1,416m) at Senjsko bilo, the northernmost extension of the Velebit range. It is the highest peak on the Senj hiking tour. The hike from Krajačeva house to the peak takes an hour and a half. The hike from the peak to Sijaset lodge takes 3 hours with an elevation loss of 1,088m.

CP 9: Sijaset lodge (328m), a single-storey stone building, is located at the bottom of the deep Sijaset'ska draga valley in the shade of a black pine forest. It has a kitchen, a dining room, a cistern, and 26 beds for hikers. The hike to Nehaj tower in Senj takes 2 hours.

CP 10: Nehaj tower. The stamp is beneath the entry stairs.



Points of interest nearby:

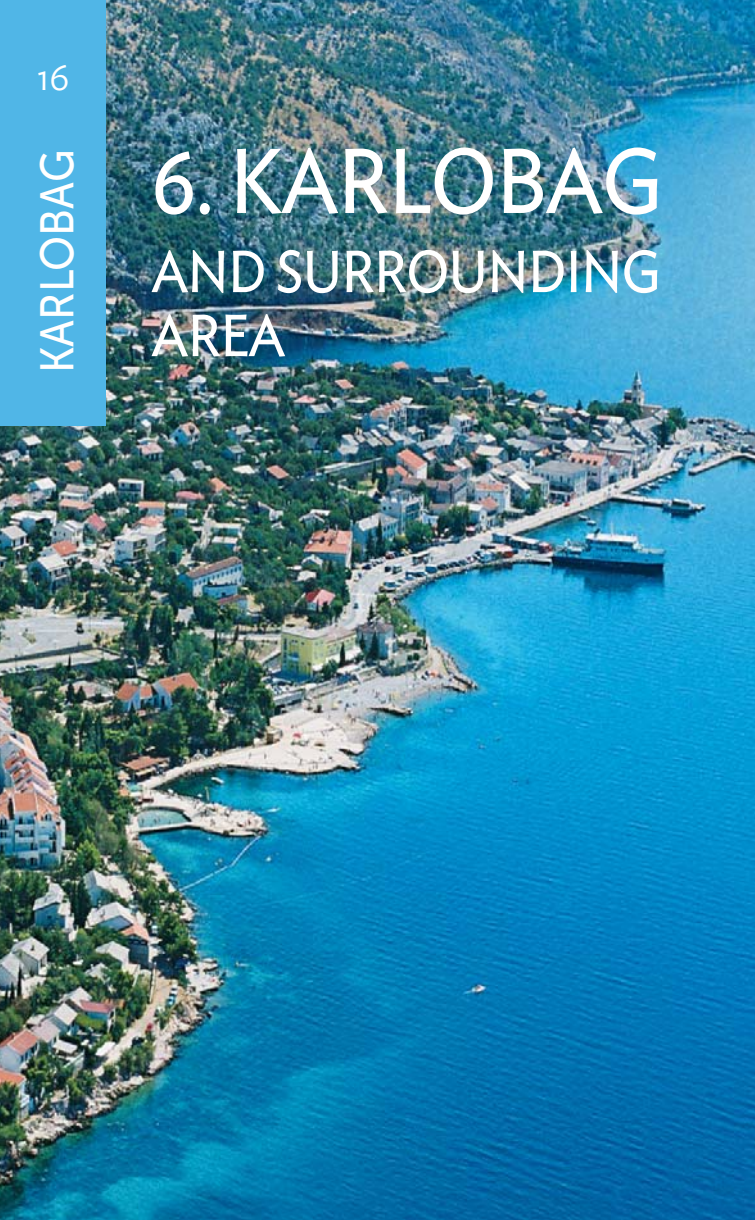
Zavratnica (p. 16)

Krasno – KuDa Velebita and Majka Božja od Krasna chapel

Zavižan – Northern Velebit National Park

Kuterevo – bear cub sanctuary

6. KARLOBAG AND SURROUNDING AREA



The entire area above Karlobag is located within Velebit Nature Park, which means that the entire area can be considered an area of special natural value. Another interesting thing that can be experienced here is a variety of climate zones – when summer has already begun in the coastal area of the municipality, there is often still snow at Baške Oštarije in mid-May.

Tourist information:

www.tz-karlobag.hr
www.pp-velebit.hr
www.parkovihrvatske.hr



Karlobag – Oštarije – Velinac (965 m)

Turn right off the Karlobag - Baške Oštarije road onto on Dabarska road, drive 3.4km to a sharp right-hand curve. At the curve, turn left onto a well-maintained forest macadam road and continue for 3.7km to the starting point of the climb to Velinac. The road widens here and makes a good spot to park, and you will find a sign pointing to Velinac (965m) on a beech tree. The trail then enters a tall beech forest and continues for 660m before exiting onto the grassy Sinokos field, which it crosses almost straight across the middle. The trail then winds directly below the peak, enters a forest of tall maquis, and continues along a somewhat steep climb towards the rocky peak of Velinac. The CP mark with a stamp is built into the rock. The peak offers the most beautiful view of Karlobag and the island of Pag.



7.5
km

2:30



200m

Terezijana – educational trail

In the desire to expose as many people as possible to the cultural importance of the Terezijana road, Velebit Nature Park has renovated a part of the Terezijana as an educational trail that presents the cultural wealth of this part of Lika-Senj County. The trail is intended for hikers exclusively, and the area it passes through makes it especially interesting. The educational trail begins at Baške Oštarije (924m) and continues downhill to the village of Konjsko (655m) across 3km, or around three hours' walk. A shorter hiking tour of around an hour and a half is also available, of which the first third of the way (to Oštarijsko ždrilo) follows the Terezijana road, after which there is an easy climb to Debela kosa peak (972m). The climb is not demanding, and it can be executed even by those not in the best of shape. After a short walk along the ridge of Debela kosa, which offers a beautiful view of the Adriatic Sea and the island of Pag on one side and the Baške Oštarije valley on the other, the trail drops down to Oštarska vrata pass.



3.0 km 01:30 3 800m



Points of interest nearby:

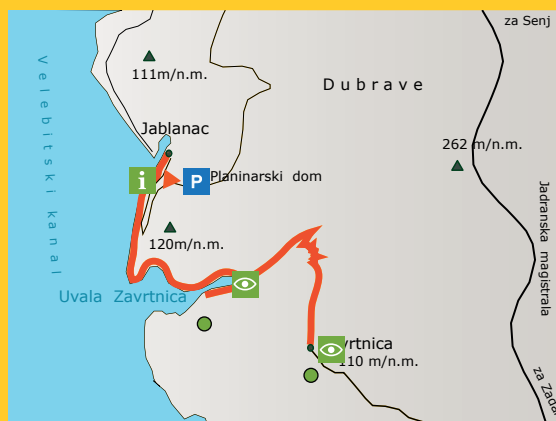
Kubus – a monument to the construction of the trans-Velebit road
Prizna – ferry line to the island of Pag
Hotel Zagreb, and seaside promenade



7. ZAVRATNICA – PROMENADE

The bay is 900m long and 50-150m wide. The canyon rises to a height of 100m. Its natural characteristics led it to be pronounced a protected landscape in 1964, and it has been a part of Velebit Nature Park since 1981.

Zavratnica is located near Jablanac, roughly halfway between Senj and Karlobag. Miroslav Hirtz lodge is located in Jablanac at a height of 20m above sea level, making it the lowest lodge in the world. The promenade to Zavratnica begins in Jablanac (15 minutes' walk along the seaside). The path from the village of Zavratnica, which runs from a lookout point to the bay via a sandy path, is more challenging. The promenade is flat and offers beautiful views of the sea on one side and Velebit on the other.



3.0 km 01:00 2 50m

8. GOSPIĆ AND SURROUNDING AREA



Gospić, rejuvenated and new, curiously awaits its guests, and like a good host, offers the best of what the town and surroundings have to offer. The Lika Museum's exhibits faithfully conjure images of the past, the girl Marta quietly carries water, reminding us that this town began drinking water from its town water system way back in 1894, and rail traffic began on its rail line around 20 years later. Near the town, you can find the birthplaces of Croatian greats: Croatian historian Dr Ante Starčević in Veliki Žitnik, and world-famous inventor Nikola Tesla in Smiljan. You can see all of this while hiking to the control points of Lika Mountain Gems.

Tourist information:

www.visitgospic.com
www.mcnikolatesla.hr



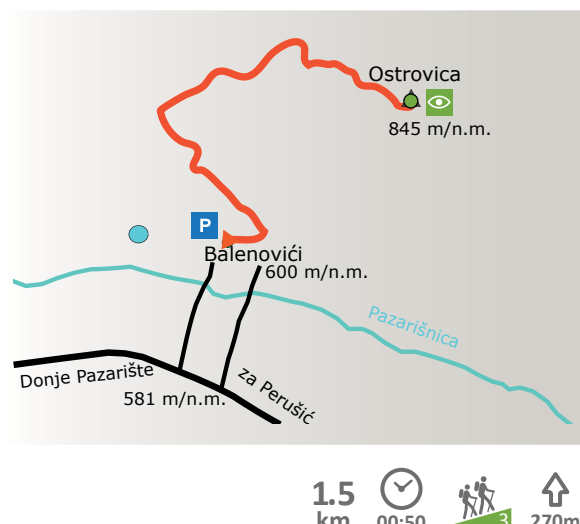
Points of interest nearby:

Lika Museum – Gospić
Dr Ante Starčević memorial home – Veliki Žitnik
(7km from Gospić)
Rizvan City – adventure park in the village of
Rizvanuša

Oštrovica (845m)

Approach: From Gospić via Smiljan and Klanac to the village of Aleksinica, 2km before Donje Pazarište.

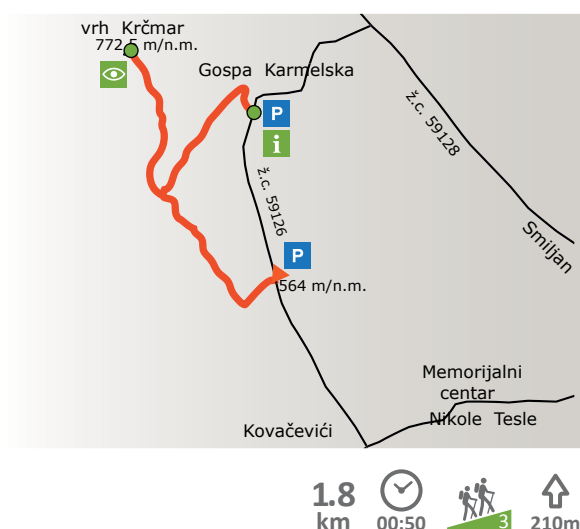
Description of route: After Aleksinica, 600m towards D. Pazarište, turn along the road towards the hill, where the old castle of Oštrovica once stood. From the main road 200 metres towards Oštrovice, a marked trail heads into the hills between a few houses. After a 20-minute climb, a pass leading to the cliffs begins. The path rounds the cliffs to the north and passes alongside a lookout point. It then passes to the southern side, and a steep set of stairs leads to the old fortress. The CP stamp is cemented into a rock at the peak. The peak offers a view of Lika field and the peaks of central Velebit.



Krčmar (773 m)

Approach: From Gospić towards the village of Smiljan (6km), near the Nikola Tesla Memorial Centre.

Description of route: An easy, gradual climb begins, lasting one hour from the memorial centre. The peak offers an interesting view of Gospić, the foothills, and the village of Smiljan, the birthplace of great mind Nikola Tesla. There are also beautiful viewpoints towards the peaks of central and southern Velebit, the Ličko sredogorje range, the village of Podoštra, and the Lika basin. A museum has been built in the birth house of Nikola Tesla, which is open until 4PM, and a memorial.



Oštra (796 m)

Approach: Head to the village of Podoštra, 4km from the centre of Gospić along the asphalt road towards Karlobag. The hike begins after the car park near the former elementary school and orphanage, after then quarry 100m down the road. The marked path begins with a maintained trail, along which there are two benches on which you can rest. After a 45-minute easy climb, you will reach the peak, where there is a ruined lookout tower and a smaller building used by the Gospić volunteer fire department. This peak offers a beautiful view of Gospić and the surrounding villages, the Ličko sredogorje range, Zir peak, the peaks of southern Velebit from Sveto brdo to the peaks at the beginning of central Velebit. Hikers from Željezničar Hiking Club have placed a few benches on Oštra peak, where you can enjoy the views. A metal stamp is built into a large rock beside the peak.



9. OTOČAC GACKA RIVER VALLEY



The view of the Gacka river valley you see to your left when heading southward out of the Mala Kapela tunnel is certain to take your breath away. You simply must turn off the highway – such beauty is not to be missed. The peaceful, winding river Gacka will instil calm in you, and the views from Mlinica in Sinac is sure to put a smile on your face. To calm your heart, visit the heart of Gacka – the town of Otočac, where you can find comfortable hotel accommodation and enjoy a wide selection of regional specialties in the local restaurants.

Tourist information:

www.tz-otocac.hr

Panos trail (828 m)

Approach: Village of Kuterevo, 2km from the Otočac-Krasno road

Description of route: The way to Panos peak begins at the church in the centre of Kuterevo. After a mild 2km climb, most of which is on the road and a small part of which is through the forest, you will reach Panos peak. The peak offers beautiful views towards Kečina greda and the part of Velebit towards Senjsko bilo. The tour lasts one hour. The CP stamp is cemented into a rock by the peak.



3
km

01:00



340m

Marković Rudine (1105 m)

Approach: From Gospić (35km) to the Ličko Lešće train station.

Description of route: To find the trailhead turn right onto a forest trail 200 metres from the Ličko Lešće train station in the direction of Split. This 8km forest trail passes beneath the highway and continues to a turnaround known as Šumska bukica. This easy, marked trail leads to Mramor (760m), where there is a bench and table at which to rest. Kamenica spring is also nearby, with 1.5 cubic metres of cold water. Odnosi li se ovo na tok? The path continues along 350m of steep altitude gain to the peak. The hike from the turnaround to the peak lasts an hour and a half. Another variant of this hike begins in Čović, where you can park at Tončin bridge and continue on foot. Cross the bridge and walk 50m to the right to the placard with a terrain map and trail map. Hodanje se nastavlja nasuprot puta koji dolazi od kuće Braniteljske udruge za odmor i rekreaciju „Glavičica“ The trail climbs from 450m to 700m at the Katunske drage pass and continues through a beautiful pine and fir forest on the northern slope of Plasina. You will then pass Veliki Gašparac lookout point (8674m), Votičev vršak lookout point (751m), and other interesting locations before reaching the aforementioned turnaround at Guste bukvice. The trail then continues along the same path as the first variant. Marković-Rudine peak.



3.0 km 01:30 4 550m



Planinarska staza Godača (1013 m)

Approach: Village of Sinac in the Gacka river valley

Description of route: A hunting lodge owned by the Ravna Gora Hunters' Society from Sinac is located one kilometre from Majerovo vrilo. Godača trail begins near the cross of the Saviour near the hunting lodge, 500 metres from which a forest trail begins that is well-maintained and wide enough for people to pass. Nejasna rečenica The starting point is at 460 metres above sea level, and the trail climbs to the longest rail tunnel on the Zagreb-Split rail line before continuing on to Veljun peak (1,013m) and an area known as Veliki i Mali kotal. In the nearby village of Udol and Mala draga u oba sela je po jedan LD? nejasno, there is a hunter's lodge owned by the Otočac branch of the Croatian Forest Service and Ravna Gora Hunters' Society. The trail runs 8km through the forest. It is of intermediate difficulty and lasts three hours. A few lookout points offer beautiful views of the Gacka river valley and northern Velebit.

Points of interest nearby:

Majerovo vrilo and Mlinica – source of the river Gacka
Plitvice Lakes National Park (50km)
Krasno – Kuterevo (ca. 25km)
Northern Velebit National Park
Grabovača Cave Park – Perušić



7.5 km 02:30 4 550m

10. PERUŠIĆ GRABOVAČA CAVE PARK



Underground, the town skilfully hides breathtaking halls full of rich stone treasure, which are open to curious eyes all year round by arrangement with the Grabovača Cave Park management. There is a great deal to see for all lovers of caves – you can walk and look, or even run from one end of the cave to the other and brag about your unique undertaking on social media. Your interesting run might even serve as a lure to bring others to Perušić to win some of the riches the caves have to offer.

Tourist information:

Perušić Tourist Board
www.tz-perusic.hr

In the Footsteps of Mirko Malez educational trail

This trail connects the hills of Šutić vrh and Grabovača, a small area with five caves where you can learn about the development of speleology in the region. In 1946, Croatian cave archaeology pioneer and academician Mirko Malez drew the first maps of all the caves located in what is today Grabovača Cave Park. The educational trail leads through the forest, hills, and valleys, passing by all of the caves in the area, and placards next to each cave provide a wealth of information about them.

Man and Karst educational trail

This trail is located on Grabovača hill, and features 20 educational placards with information about the natural, cultural, and historical characteristics of the area. The trail also features a lookout point with a rest area, where you can relax and enjoy the panoramic view of Gospić, Velebit, and the Lika river canyon. Walking along this trail, you will also pass by Velika Kozarica cave, Tabakuša cave, and Slipica pit. Parts of the trail correspond to old livestock trails, where you can learn about old livestock farming traditions. The trails of Lika's old wagoners boast traces of past times, when the local people lived off the forest and their livestock, and life was simple, peaceful, and in harmony with nature.

3 km 02:00  2  98m



Risovac (860 m)

Approach: By road from Perušić (8.5km) or from Gospić via Smiljan and Klanac (18km).

Hiking tour: At the seventh kilometre past Perušić, turn beside the Church of St. Nicholas at the cross in the village of Kaluđerovac. From the centre of the village, head left to the end of the road and continue on, following the signs to the top. The path wraps around Metlača peak on the right side. The climb is easy, and takes around an hour and a half. The peak offers a beautiful view in all directions. While walking, you can enjoy the special view of Perušić and the Ličko sredogorje range, the Duliba area and the course of the river Lika. The stamp is cemented into a rock at the peak. After their trip to Risovac peak, hikers can also visit Grabovača Cave Park and the Samograd cave near Perušić, or go for a boat ride on Kruščica lake organised by the Perušić Tourist Board.



3.7 km 01:15  4  240m

Points of interest nearby:

Lika river
Kosinjski bridge
Kruščica artificial lake
Northern Velebit National Park



11. LOVINAC



Of all the villages in Lika, it is easiest to explain where Lovinac is. "Over there by Zir," and it's immediately clear where it is. Whenever I pass by these stones jutting out of the flat plain, I remember the children's song: "If there were enough milk to cover Lika, you could make a cheese (sir) the size of Zir." Only the bravest climb up onto Zir, while the rest ride their bikes, run along marked trails, or sled on Cvituša in winter... And what else? Oh yes, they enjoy their active holidays, the fresh air, excellent Lika lamb, and delicious Velebit beer.

Tourist information:

www.lito.lovinac.hr
www.lovinac.hr



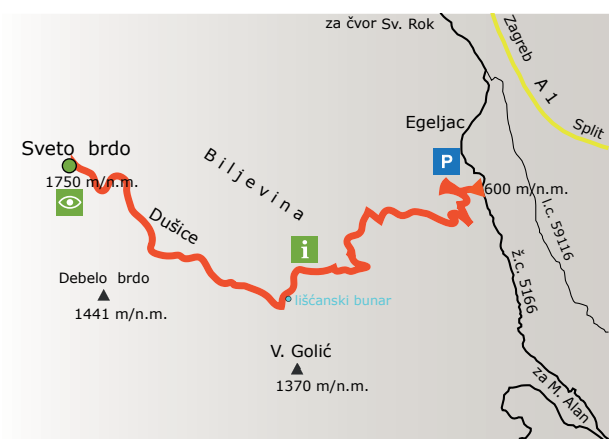
Points of interest nearby:

Cvituša excursion area - sled/ski area
Debeljača cave



Sveti Rok – Sveto Brdo

Take the Sveti Rok exit off the Zagreb-Split highway. After the toll booths, drive towards Sveti Rok to the crossing with the old road, which leads from Lovinac across Mali Alan pass to Obrovac. When you turn onto this road, follow it to the monument on the right side, 10.9km from the toll booths. From this point, the climb leads along a macadam forest road for 6.2km. The road ends at this point, and the trail continues through a high beech forest where it meets with a trail leading from the direction of Mali Alan (800m). The trail is well-marked and pleasant to hike. These two paths join into one, and lead to Dušica plateau and on to Sveto Brdo. The trail is very well marked from this point to the peak, and the markings are maintained often and easy to follow. At the eastern end of the plateau, a spring with potable water is located right next to the trail. Beside the spring, there is also a signpost pointing left towards Stanovi Jurjevića (roughly 200 metres from the signpost) and right towards the mountain shelter and Sveto brdo. The trail continues on across the plateau before turning into a beech forest for the very steep climb to the peak. At this point, roughly 100 metres before the exit onto the ridge, there is a ravine to the left of the trail. Take care at this point, especially when climbing under snowy conditions, as the ravine is neither visible nor marked.

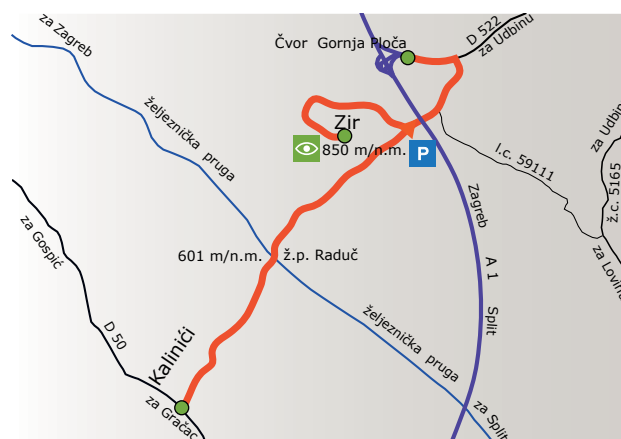


11.6 km 04:10 5 1140m

Zir (850 m)

Approach: From Gospić, drive 21km towards Gračac to the village of Raduč, and continue along the macadam road to Trkulje village.

Hiking tour: Starting at the first house in Trkulje, a marked path heads along the northeastern slope and continues onto the southern part. After 15 minutes of walking, you will pass by a cave, where the climb to the pass under the cliffs continues along a rocky outcropping. The path to the peak leads along the northwestern side. A steep climb follows, and you must take care not to slip, especially during rainy or snowy conditions. The climb to the peak of Zir is a semi-circle around the northern face. Zir is a lone rocky monolith in lower Lika field, and it stands out from all sides. The view from Zir stretches across Crnopac, Sveto brdo, and other parts of southern Velebit, and during sunny, clear weather, you can see the outlines of nearly all of central and southern Velebit. Two highway interchanges and the Sveti Rok and Gornja Ploča highway exits are located near Zir. The CP stamp is located on the very rock at the peak.



9.0 km 03:30 4 252m



Roughly 140km from Zagreb on the highway to Split, just before the rest stop at Motel Lika, you will see a half-collapsed fortress atop a small hill. Curiosity will surely turn you off your path and into Brinje, where the walls of this fortress stand – Sokolac castle, built by the Frankopan princes of Krk in the early 15th century. For the rest of the story, let your imagination wander into the past as you hike up the paths to Staro Brinje peak.

Tourist information:

www.visitbrinje.hr
www.brinje.hr



Staro Brinje (843 m)

Approach: The marked trail begins at the Sokolac Hotel in the centre of Brinje.

Hiking tour: From the centre of Brinje, turn right after 50m onto Lovačka Street. After 1km of walking and having crossed the highway, turn left towards the village of Lučane, and after 1.4km turn right for 2km towards Lokve and enter the forest. After 1km, you will reach a forest road, where you will turn right, and after another 1km you will turn left at a sharp curve onto a skid trail. After 1km, you will reach the summit, where you can take the easy walk up the northwestern side to Staro Brinje peak.

The climb to the stony peak from the base of the summit lasts 15 minutes. The peak offers a beautiful view of the Brinje valley and the town of Brinje. The hike from Brinje to the peak takes about two and a half hours. There is also a shorter path, which takes one hour, which you can find by turning off the main road onto a side road towards Brinje near the village of Prokike to reach the forest road. This road will bring you to the base of the skid trail, where you can continue along the route to the peak described above. The CP stamp is cemented into a rock directly beneath the peak.



7.5
km

02:30



400m



Your first meeting with Vrhovine, like many love stories, will be love at first sight. There are many reasons for this: broad valleys, pine forests, the slopes of Mala and Velika Kapela, the surrounding Gacka river valley, and the nearby Plitvice Lakes, the most beautiful lake system in the world (according to UNESCO). Also, the longest zip-line in Europe will begin operating there soon. What more do you need for an invitation?

Tourist information:

www.vrhovine.hr

Zipline Beware of the Bear
www.ziplineplitvice.com

Vrhovine

The municipality of Vrhovine stretches across the foothills of Mala Kapela, between Plitvice Lakes National Park and Velebit, on the D52 road connecting the Adriatic Sea to the famous natural beauty of Plitvice Lakes via Senj, Otočac, and Vrhovine. It also lies on the rail line connecting Zagreb and Rijeka with Dalmatia. The municipality of Vrhovina lies at between 500m (Zalužnica) and 1,150m (Javornik) above sea level. Mala Kapela mountain in the northeast provides the basic relief characteristics (with its highest peak of Seliški vrh at 1,279m). The slopes of Mala Kapela descend towards Vrhovine field, and the highest peaks in the municipality of Vrhovine are Krivi javor (1,204m), Ciljak (1,018m), Cigelj (1,164m), and Brda (1,006m). The terrain between these peaks is quite dynamic, with many individual peaks, passes, valleys, and canyons. Panos peak (974m) stands proudly south of the village of Vrhovine.

14. UDBINA DONJI LAPAC



Halfway between Zagreb and Split along the highway, the brilliant white Church of the Croatian Martyrs on a small hill in Udbina will catch your eye. Behind it, Lička Plješivica, the fourth-largest mountain in Croatia, stands like a curtain leading towards Bosnia and Herzegovina. The highest peak of Ozeblina (1,657m) offers a wide panoramic view of Lika, Velebit, Krbava field, Gola Plješivica, Donji Lapac, and on to the mountains of Bosnia. The beauty of this region has made it the starting point for numerous hiking trails. The municipality of Udbina has also built two hiking trails and two cycling trails for all nature lovers. These trails are all marked and described on a map which every visitor will receive.

Tourist information:

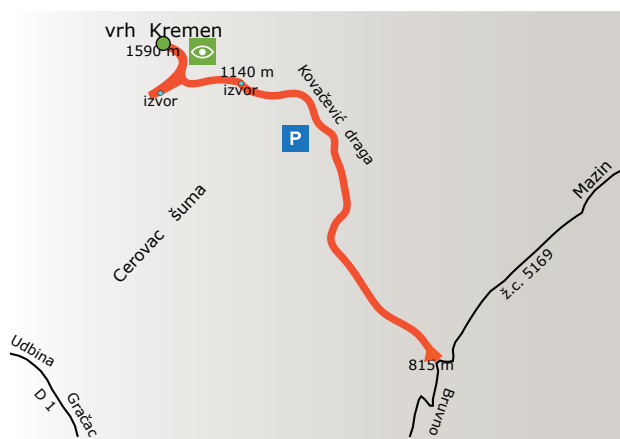
www.udbina.hr



Kremen (1591 m)

Approach: Middle of the pass above Mazin towards Donji Lapac.

The hiking tour begins at the Mazin pass, at the sixth kilometre out of Bruvno in the direction of Donji Lapac. From this point, the trail runs about 3km along a forest road along the slopes of Solobanica to the foothills of Kremen. An easy, 40-minute ascent begins at the spring above the village of Kovačevići, which then becomes steeper for another 20 minutes to the base of the rocks. Another 20 minutes is needed from the ridge to the peak. The peak offers beautiful views, especially of southern Velebit and its highest peaks, as well as towards the peaks of Lička Plješivica. The CP stamp is cemented into a square rock at the peak.



7.5
km

02:00



800m

Educational hiking trail - green

The hiking tour: The trail passes along the edge of Visuć village (Podkuk) near the Udbina-Donji Lapac road. This relatively small area brings together a wealth of nature and culture presented on informative placards, giving this route an especially educational character. In addition to getting to know the landscape and geomorphological characteristics, the trail will also introduce you to local history, legends, and stories. Additionally, without a great deal of effort, you can enjoy panoramas of the surrounding peaks all the way to Krbava field and Velebit in the distance. During your walk, refresh yourself with cold water from Pištalina spring.



12.0 km 04:00 3 381m



Hiking trail - yellow

The hiking tour: The first and last part of this trail are educational in character. This trail is intended for hikers in average condition, and it is ideal for a half-day excursion. The central part of the trail is a more traditional mountain hike, and will take you to the lowest peak in the region – Stražbenica (1,201m), where you can enjoy a wide panorama of the southern part of Plješivica, Kremen, Velebit, and the peaks of neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina.



5.3 km 02:30 1 168m

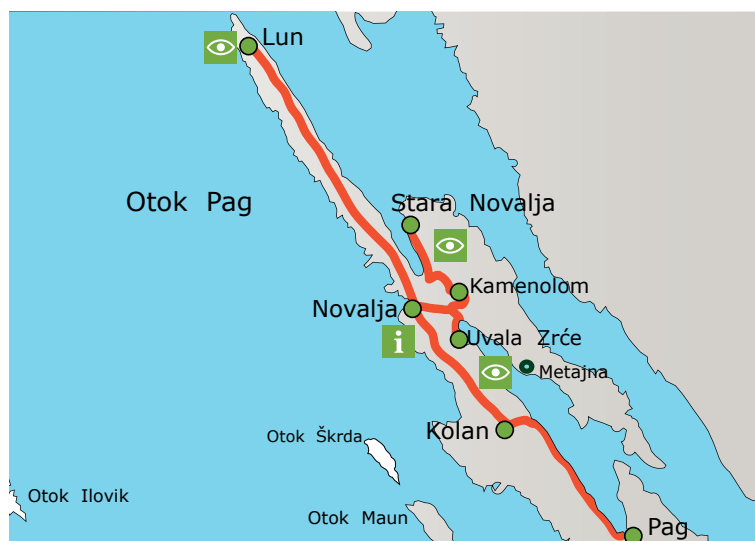
15. NOVALJA OTOK PAG



Time to hit the coast! Let's head to the island of Pag – take the ferry from Prizna to Žigljen, and Novalja is just ten minutes away. Great for a change, as well as for a change of shoes. For hiking on the rocks, you'll need some tough soles. This region looks like the surface of the moon, but it's so interesting in its own way that it would truly be a shame to miss. It would also be a shame to miss the Pag lamb, and the Pag cheese which is eaten by royalty, and the fresh seafood... What more invitation do you need?

Tourist information:

www.visitnovalja.hr
www.novalja.info





Vodice trail

A trail that connects Pag and Novalja through an interesting inhabited area. This well-compacted macadam road is an easy hike, and you can find refreshment in many places along the way. A spring with potable water is located halfway along the trail, and you will also see an ornithological reserve from the trail.

7.5
km



02:00



Kolan trail

This trail leads from the village of Kolan to Pag or Novalja. Although it is relatively demanding, especially the pass at Mandra, the fields and ravines it passes through are fascinating, and you can also find a wide selection of homemade local products in Kolan.

9.5
km



03:00



Quarry trail

This trail begins at the ferry harbour in Stara Novalja and ends at Zrće beach. This 10km trail passes alongside numerous beaches, and you can also turn off the trail towards Žigljen to visit the UFO Park. However, the greatest points of interest on this trail are those it was named after – quarries.

10.0
km 03:30  3

Novalja field trail

This paved trail is especially suitable for both recreational hikers and cyclists. Here, you can explore some smaller trails, climbs, and bridges without getting lost or exhausting yourself.

2.5
km 01:00  3

Novalja – Lun trail

This is the best trail on which to see the Novalja area. Take care during peak tourist season, however, as this trail also serves as a road. The route allows you to pause on Potočnica and Jakišnica beach. The olive groves of Lun are especially fascinating as well – some of their olive trees are up to a thousand years old.

18.0
km 06:30  3

Wine trails

The trail leading to the area's wine cellars is not easy – it is steep, difficult, and demands good concentration and physical condition. When you reach the wine cellar offers you with a view of Novalja field, and a welcome menu is also offered.

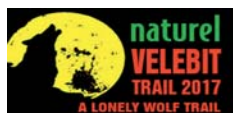
16.0
km 05:00  3



ORGANISED RACES AND MARATHONS



NATUREL VELEBIT TRAIL 2017



Time of race: late June

First edition: 2003

Region: Zadar and Lika-Senj Counties

Location: Starigrad Paklenica / Paklenica National Park / Velebit Nature Park

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

+385(098)819 281

velebit-ultra-trail@outdoor.hr

www.outdoor.hr

LIKA CAVE TRAIL



Time of race: first week in June

First edition: 2016

Location: Perušić, Grabovača Cave Park

Start: Samograd cave, Grabovača Cave Park

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

www.outdoor.hr

LIFE ON MARS EDITION



PAG ISLAND STAR TREKK

A David Bowie Tribute race

Time of race: early April (Saturday)

Place: Metajna, island of Pag

1st edition

Starting line for all categories: Metajna canyon

Finish line: Metajna, on the promenade

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

www.outdoor.hr

PLITVICE MARATHON



The best-known, oldest, and probably the most beautiful marathon, the Plitvice Marathon has been held since 1981, and draws more and more runners every year to its marathon, half-marathon, and 5k race.

Time of race: first week in June

Place: Plitvice Lakes

Start – Finish: Mukinje – Plitvice

Trail length: 42km

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

www.crorun.pro

VISOČICA CLIMB



Time of race: early July

Start: at the end of Rizvanuš village (near Pizdica spring)

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

tajnik@pdzeljeznicegospic.hr

+385(98)9223187

www.pdzeljeznice.hr

NOVALJA – LUN TRAIL&TREKK



Time of race: mid-May (Saturday)

Place: Island of Pag (Novalja – Lun)

Start – Finish: Novalja – Lun

INFORMATION AND CONTACT:

+385(91)443-0007

sven.veronek@runcroatia.hr

www.runcroatia.hr



HIKING TRAILS

When hiking, one must walk exclusively on hiking trails, as they serve to bring you to your destination and back safely and with as little difficulty as possible. Trails are divided into three categories:

1. Easy – trails on which you do not need to use your hands
2. Intermediate – trails on which you only need to use your hands at difficult points
3. Difficult – trails on which you must use your hands.

TRAIL MARKINGS

1. Red circle with white interior.



Red and yellow round marks are located on European hiking trails.

Blue and white markings signify approaches to caves, ponors, springs, and other speleological features.

2. Belt marking on a thin tree or post



3. An X mark is placed exclusively beneath round trail markings 30 to 50 metres prior to a crossing of marked trails. This mark is very important, as it warns hikers that a crossing of marked trails is approaching. Crossings of marked and unmarked trails are not indicated with an X mark.



4. Markings with an additional line that point towards the following marking



5. A red line placed on a stone in between two distant markings



6. An arrow beneath the sign signifies that the trail changes direction suddenly





When planning a hiking trip, do not underestimate the weather forecast. It is impossible to provide a completely accurate forecast, as the weather on the mountain can change incredibly quickly. Thus, you should always carry a raincoat or a bivouac in your backpack.

If you happen to get caught in a thunderstorm while hiking, move away from exposed mountain peaks, rocky ridges, cliffs, and free-standing trees to avoid lightning strikes. In the case of a poor weather forecast or poor weather in the field, it is better not to hike, as you will not be able to enjoy yourself, and this is the main goal of hiking.

Weather indicators: weather can also be predicted using a barometer. A drop in air pressure is a sign of oncoming poor weather, while rising or stable air pressure is a sign of fair weather.



Advice: Never ignore the weather forecast, and do not hike regardless of the weather, as you can endanger your life by doing so!

Good weather: High still clouds or clouds moving from the east; lowering fog and clouds, a pale blue or clear blue sky; a mild evening red sky of pure colours.

Poor weather: Gathering clouds of irregular shape, gusts of wind; westerly, southerly, or south-westerly winds; high humidity; quick-moving high clouds moving from east to west.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Croatia international dialing code
00385

Lika-Senj County area code
053

Emergency services
194

police
192

fire service
193

weather report
01 3832 182
www.meteo.hr

road conditions
072 777 777
www.hak.hr

Croatian Automobile Club,
road service
01 6611 999
www.hak.hr/info

HGSS - Gospić
MOUNTAIN RESCUE SERVICE
www.gss.hr



In case of an accident on land or at sea, call 112!



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www.visit-lika.com



www.lika-active.com

